

Section 1: The Byzantine Empire
Byzantine and Muslim Civilizations

Guided Reading and Review

A. As You Read

Directions: *As you read Section 1, answer the following questions in the spaces provided.*

1. What weapon gave the Byzantines power? What did it contain?

2. What two key changes did the emperor Constantine make during his reign?

3. Why was the Byzantine Empire stronger than the Roman Empire?

4. What led to the fall of the western Roman Empire?

5. Why is Justinian considered to be one of the greatest Byzantine emperors?

6. What was the significance of the Justinian Code to both the ancient and modern world?

7. What was the effect of the religious dispute in 1054?

B. Reviewing Key Terms

Directions: *Write the definitions for the following key terms on a blank sheet of paper.*

8. Constantine
9. Constantinople
10. Justinian
11. Justinian's Code
12. schism

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Section Quiz

A. Key Terms

Directions: Read the statements below. If a statement is true, write T in the blank provided. If it is false, write F. Rewrite false statements on the back of this page to make them true.

- _____ 1. The Emperor Basil II stopped the persecution of Christians.
- _____ 2. Under the emperor Constantine, Rome was renamed Constantinople.
- _____ 3. One of the greatest Byzantine emperors was Justinian.
- _____ 4. Justinian's Code was an organized collection and explanation of Jewish laws for use by the Roman Empire.
- _____ 5. After the schism of 1054, there were two distinct forms of Christianity.

B. Main Ideas

Directions: Write the letter of the correct answer in each blank.

- _____ 6. Between which two continents was Constantinople located?
 - a. Europe and Asia
 - b. Africa and Europe
 - c. Asia and Africa
 - d. South America and Europe
- _____ 7. Justinian's Code became the backbone of modern Europe's
 - a. phone system.
 - b. alphabets.
 - c. legal system.
 - d. religions.
- _____ 8. Why did the church in Constantinople and the church in Rome split?
 - a. to keep Christian worshippers out
 - b. so the pope and patriarch could rule as a team
 - c. to make the Byzantine Empire stronger
 - d. the pope banished the Byzantine emperor
- _____ 9. The Byzantine Empire experienced a final period of greatness under
 - a. Constantine.
 - b. Justinian.
 - c. Basil II.
 - d. Prince Igor.
- _____ 10. What happened to Constantinople after it fell?
 - a. It was left in ruins until it was rediscovered centuries later.
 - b. The new rulers rebuilt the city and made it an imperial capital.
 - c. The Crusaders made it Europe's capital.
 - d. Western Christians rebuilt the city.

Byzantine and Muslim Civilizations

Skills for Life**Using a Table to Write a Paragraph**

Directions: Read the information in the following table. In the lines provided, write answers to the questions.

Hagia Sophia	
Characteristics	Facts
Name	Hagia Sophia, which means "holy wisdom"
Type of structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Originally built as a Christian church■ Changed into a mosque in 1473; now a museum
Importance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ One of the grandest examples of Byzantine architecture■ Built by the Byzantine emperor Justinian
Location	Constantinople
When built	Between A.D. 532 and 537
Building details	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Huge central dome; framework of arches and vaults■ Interior mosaics

1. What is the topic of the table? What is its purpose?

2. What is the importance of the Hagia Sophia?

3. How has the Hagia Sophia changed over the centuries?

4. On the lines below, write the most important thing you've learned about the Hagia Sophia. Then, on a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph about the Hagia Sophia that states your conclusion in a topic sentence.

Byzantine and Muslim Civilizations

Primary Sources and Literature Readings**Byzantine Empress Theodora**

In the year 532, the empire of Empress Theodora and her husband Emperor Justinian was under attack by rebels. When Justinian wanted to escape to safety, Theodora made this passionate speech to stop him.

My lords, the present occasion is too serious to allow me to follow the convention that a woman should not speak in a man's council. Those whose interests are threatened by extreme danger should think only of the wisest course of action, not of conventions.

In my opinion, flight is not the right course, even if it should bring us to safety. It is impossible for a person, having been born into this world, not to die; but for one who has reigned it is intolerable to be a fugitive. May I never be deprived of this purple robe, and may I never see the day when those who meet me do not call me empress.

If you wish to save yourself, my lord, there is no difficulty. We are rich; over there is the sea, and yonder are the ships. Yet reflect for a moment whether, when you have once escaped to a place of security, you would not gladly exchange such safety for death. As for me, I agree with the adage that the royal purple is the noblest shroud.

Quoted in *Lend Me Your Ears: Great Speeches in History*, selected by William Safire. Copyright © 1992 by the Cobbett Corporation, published by W.W. Norton and Company.

Vocabulary Builder

convention	commonly accepted practice but not an actual law
reigned	ruled, been a monarch
fugitive	one who runs away and is followed
purple robe	purple is a color associated with royalty
adage	old saying
shroud	a cloth wrapped around a corpse before burial

Think It Over

1. How does Empress Theodora's speech make you feel? Do you agree or disagree with her position? What are your reasons?
2. What does the empress mean when she says, "May I never see the day when those who meet me do not call me empress?"